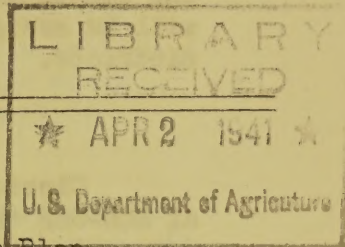


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NCR-552

Issued February 15, 1941

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



1941 RANGE CONSERVATION PROGRAM  
North Central Region

Instructions for Filling Out NCR-553, 1941 Ranch Plan

General

The purpose of the "Ranch Plan," NCR-553, is to encourage ranchers to adopt good range management practices and to aid them in planning their ranch operations so that they may cooperate in the 1941 Range Conservation Program.

The county committee will arrange a meeting with all ranch operators in the county in order to explain the 1941 Range Conservation Program. Each operator will be given an opportunity to fill out and sign form NCR-553 not later than May 15, 1941, which he must do in order to participate in the 1941 range program. By signing NCR-553 and filing it with the county committee, the rancher requests the approval of range building practices to be carried out on the ranching unit in 1941, indicates his intention to cooperate in the range program, and requests a check of performance at the proper time.

The range inspector and the county committee shall refuse to execute form NCR-553 for any ranching unit on which it is determined that the stand of grass has been decreased or the forage, tree growth or watershed has been injured by overgrazing in 1941. Even though a rancher executes NCR-553 and carries out approved range building practices, no payment will be made if it is determined that the stand of grass has been decreased or the forage, tree growth or watershed has been injured by overgrazing in 1941.

If any rancher declines to give the information needed to complete NCR-553, a statement to that effect will be written across the map and dated and signed by the range inspector to whom the NCR-553 was assigned. The NCR-553 will then be filed in the county office.

The county committee will determine the number of ranch operators within the county. No person may be considered as a ranch operator unless he controls at least 640 acres of range land and he is customarily regarded in the community as a ranch operator.



The inspection of ranching units, for the purpose of filling out NCR-553 will be assigned to county range inspectors on the basis of range inspector districts.

## PART I - PREPARATION OF NCR-553

Clerical assistants will enter in the upper right-hand corner of NCR-553 the State and county code, ranch serial number, and range inspector district number in the spaces provided therefor. These entries will be taken from the range listing sheet, NCR-255, after the listing of range land data has been completed for the county for 1941.

### Section I.---

This section will be prepared by clerical assistants in the county office for those ranching units for which the information is available. The range inspector will prepare this section for ranching units for which this information is not available.

### Section II. -- Status of Land in Ranching Unit.

The range inspector will determine the ownership, legal description, the owner's address, the type of control, and the date of expiration of control for each individually owned tract of land in the ranching unit and will make the entries in the spaces provided therefor. In making the entry concerning type of control for each tract, the range inspector will examine the evidence presented by the ranch operator with respect to leasing agreements and shall indicate the type of control shown by the evidence with one of the following entries: cash lease, tax payments, contract for deed, verbal agreement, livestock for share, or such other entry as would indicate the type of control existing. No tract of land will be included as a part of the ranching unit unless there is written evidence indicating that the operator has control of the tract through November 1, 1941. Data for all tracts to be included in the 1941 range program must be entered in this section by July 1, 1941. All entries will be reviewed by the county committee and all tracts should be plotted on a county map as a means of checking for duplications.

### Section III.--Determination of Average Appraisal and Carrying Capacity of the Ranching Unit.

The following entries will be made for each tract for which entries are made opposite the corresponding tract numbers in Section II. Enter in column (a) the total acreage of land in each tract. Enter in column (b) the acreage of range land in each tract. Enter in column (c) the acreage of cropland in each tract. This entry should conform to the acreage of cropland determined for this tract under the 1941 Agricultural Conservation Program. Enter in column



(d) the acreage of other land in each tract. This entry will include roads, lanes, building lots, or wasteland (land on which there is not sufficient vegetation to classify as range land) and land which has been designated as restoration land under the 1941 Agricultural Conservation Program. The totals of the entries of columns (b), (c), and (d) for each tract must equal the entry in column (a). The entry in column (e) for each tract will be determined in the following manner:

1. If the tract had an individual appraisal established in 1940, the entry in column (e) for that tract should be the appraisal established in 1940.

2. If the tract did not have an individual appraisal established in 1940, the entry in column (e) will be determined by the range inspector by comparing such tract to the normal range appraisal for the range inspector district. In making such comparison the range inspector will take into consideration vegetation, soil type, topography, and other factors. The entries in column (f) for each tract will be determined by dividing the entry in column (b) by the corresponding entry in column (e) and entering the result, rounded to one decimal, in column (f). Enter in the total line the totals of columns (a), (b), (c), (d), and (f). The entry in the total line of column (e) will be the average range appraisal for the ranching unit in 1941 and is determined by dividing the total of column (b) by the total of column (f) and rounding to one decimal place.

#### Section IV.--Other Range Land used in Connection with the Ranching Unit.

The range inspector will secure information regarding additional land used in connection with the ranching unit but which is not included in the ranching unit in Section III. Enter the acreage and indicate the type of land.

#### Section V.--Livestock on Hand as of April 1, 1941 (over six months of age).

The range inspector will obtain from the ranch operator information regarding livestock on hand over six months of age as of April 1, 1941, and will enter the numbers of such livestock.

#### Section VI.--Certification of Range Inspector.

The range inspector will sign and date the NCR-553 upon completion of all entries as outlined herein.

#### Section VII.--Certification and Application for Approval of Range Building Practices by Ranch Operator.

The range inspector will assist the ranch operator in determining range building practices most applicable and desirable for accomplishing



good range management on the ranching unit and will set forth the location and designation of the practices in column (a) of this section. The range inspector will assist the operator in locating the areas or sites upon which designated range building practices are to be carried out in 1941 and will justify the selection of sites or location of areas in column (b) of this section. If the practice of limited grazing is approved for the ranching unit the acreage to be summer grazed will be entered in column (a) and the number check plots required will be entered in column (b). In addition to making the above determinations, the range inspector should explain thoroughly to the ranch operator the specifications that are required for each practice selected for the ranching unit to qualify for payment under the 1941 Range Conservation Program.

#### Section VIII.--Map of Ranching Unit.

The ranching unit will be outlined on the map from the legal description as given in Section II, using the scale of 2 inches to the mile unless a smaller scale is necessary to accommodate the entire ranching unit on the map, in which case a scale of 1 inch to the mile will be used. The map must show ranch headquarters, all fences, cropland, existing watering places, and all range building practices which are to be carried out on the ranching unit in 1941, in accordance with the standard symbol sheet. Check plots for limited grazing will be designated on the map as . If aerial photos are available they may be used as the map for the ranching unit.

#### Section IX.--

After the county committee has determined that all entries in previous sections of NCR-553 are complete and correct, clerical assistants will make the following entries:

Enter on line (a) the total acres in ranch. This entry will be taken from the total line of column (a) of Section III.

Enter on line (b) the total range land. This entry will be taken from the total line of column (b) of Section III.

Enter on line (c) the average range appraisal in acres per animal unit. This entry will be taken from the total line of column (e), Section III.

Enter on line (d) the preliminary range allowance for the ranching unit. This entry will be the sum of the entry in line (b) of this section multiplied by two cents, plus the entry on the total line of column (f) of Section III multiplied by ninety cents. However, the range allowance will not be less than \$160, or 8 cents times the number of such acres, whichever is smaller.

The county committee will review all entries in NCR-553 with the range inspector and determine that the entries are complete and correct. The county committee will carefully examine the entries in



Section VII relating to range building practices and will certify approval of those practices which will tend to effectuate the purposes of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act and promote soil conservation and good range management. The county committee will delete any practices listed in Section VII which do not meet the above requirements. No payment will be made for any range building practices which have not been designated and approved by the county committee by July 1, 1941.

#### PART II - PREPARATION OF NCR-553a

The purpose of NCR-553a is to furnish the ranch operator written approval by county committee of range building practices to be carried out on the ranching unit in 1941.

After the county committee has determined that all entries on NCR-553 are complete and correct and has certified approval of the range building practices in Section VII, clerical assistants will transfer all data from Sections VII, VIII, and IX of NCR-553 to the applicable sections of NCR-553a. A member of the county committee will sign and date NCR-553a in the space provided and mail the form to the ranch operator. If any of the entries on NCR-553a differ from the original entries on NCR-553, as executed by the range inspector and signed by the ranch operator, a letter shall accompany NCR-553a, explaining the reasons for making such changes or corrections.

All forms NCR-553a will be mailed to the operators not later than July 1, 1941.

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